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**FILED**

AUGUST 2, 2005

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: Megan K. Matthews  
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:

PATRICIA CONNOLLY DETURA, C.N.M.  
License No.: 25ME00016100

ENGAGING IN THE PRACTICE OF NURSE  
MIDWIFERY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**CONSENT ORDER**

This matter was brought before the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") by inquiry into the nurse midwifery practice of Respondent, Patricia Connolly-DeTura, C.N.M.. Specifically, the Board has investigated the nurse midwifery practice of Respondent with regard to patient E.G. who was scheduled for a home birth with Respondent.

Respondent appeared with counsel, Walter R. Bliss, Jr., Esq., and gave testimony before the Certified Nurse Midwife Committee of the Board of Medical Examiners on June 21, 2004. Further,

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

Respondent supplied patient records regarding the above mentioned patient to the Board and those records have been examined by a certified nurse midwife expert.

Upon review of all available information, it appears that Respondent accepted and admitted E.G. to intrapartum care at home when she had multiple criteria making her inappropriate for out-of-hospital birth as defined by Respondent's own protocols, New Jersey midwifery regulations and the generally accepted standard of care for midwives practicing in and out of hospital settings. Respondent also failed to follow her own protocols and comply with New Jersey midwifery regulations in her management of prolonged ruptured membranes at term in a patient with +GBS, induction of labor using prescriptive medication at home, inadequate monitoring of fetal status and failure to manage third stage of labor so as to minimize blood loss and to provide IV access in a patient with significant anemia. Further, Respondent maintained inadequate documentation of care and patient's status prior to and during an emergency transfer.

The Board finds that Respondent has engaged in numerous violations of the regulations governing certified nurse midwifery practice, including violations of N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.5(b), N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.10(a) and N.J.A.C. 13:35-2A.11(a) and (b) all in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h). Additionally the Board finds that Respondent has committed repeated acts of negligence in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(d).

Respondent has represented through counsel that she has not accepted any new patients since she was first made aware of the Board's investigation in April 2004 and that she last acted as midwife at a birth on September 12, 2004.

Respondent, being desirous of resolving this matter without further formal proceedings and the Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health safety and welfare and for other good cause shown,

IT IS ON THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2005,

AGREED AND ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nurse midwifery in the State of New Jersey is hereby placed on probationary status. At the conclusion of six months, Respondent may apply to have the probation lifted from her midwifery license upon proof to the Board's satisfaction that she is fit and competent to reenter midwifery practice, including clinical practice.

2. During this period of probation, respondent shall not schedule or participate in any antepartum, intrapartum, or post partum care of any patient, except under the direct supervision of a certified nurse midwife licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey who has been previously approved by the Board for such supervision. Respondent shall only practice in a hospital based setting. Respondent shall cause the supervising nurse midwife to submit a monthly report to the Committee through Terri Goldberg, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, N.J. 07101 for delivery to the Certified Nurse Midwife Committee for review. The report shall highlight the supervising certified nurse midwife's findings as to the appropriateness of care rendered by respondent. Respondent shall provide a copy of the within Order to the approved supervisor and any and all costs associated with the supervision of her practice shall be borne by respondent, Patricia Connolly-DeTura.

3. During the period of probation, respondent shall provide copies of the charts of all her patients to the Committee through Terri Goldberg, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, N.J. 07101 for delivery to the Certified Nurse Midwife Committee for review. In the event that respondent handles



the care of more than 10 patients in a month, she shall limit the number of charts provided to the Committee to ten.

4. Respondent shall adhere to ACNM guidelines and all New Jersey statutes and regulations concerning CNM care provisions and obligations to patients.

5. Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a course in managing high risk patients to be approved by the Board prior to enrollment. Successful completion means that all sessions were attended, all assignments were properly and appropriately completed, and a passing grade was achieved which was unconditional and without reservation. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of said course-work to the Board within six (6) months hereof.

6. Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a course in communicating with difficult patients to be approved by the Board prior to enrollment. Successful completion means that all sessions were attended, all assignments were properly and appropriately completed, and a passing grade was achieved which was unconditional and without reservation. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of said course-work to the Board within six (6) months hereof.

7. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$2500 and costs of investigation in this matter in the amount of \$4524.15 for a total of \$7024.15 which shall be paid at the Court Rule rate of 1% annual interest in consecutive monthly installments of no less than \$300 per month, which shall be due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, commencing 30 days after the entry of this Order. Payment shall be made by check or money order made payable to the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners and mailed to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 E. Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183.


8. This Consent Order resolves all ongoing investigations into Respondent's practice and resolves all disciplinary matters known to the Board at this time.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS


By: 

Bernard Robins, M.D.  
Board President

I have read and understood the within  
Order and agree to be bound by its terms.  
Consent is hereby given to the Board to  
enter this Order.

  
Patricia Connolly DeTura, CNM

Consented as to form and entry

  
Walter R. Bliss, Jr., Esq.



**NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD**  
**REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection, upon request.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Subtitle A 60.8, the Board is obligated to report to the National Practitioners Data Bank any action relating to a physician which is based on reasons relating to professional competence or professional conduct:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license,
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation,
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Section 61.7, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection (HIP) Data Bank, any formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license (and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure or probation or any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the provider, supplier, or practitioner, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise, or any other negative action or finding by such Federal or State agency that is publicly available information.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-19.13, if the Board refuses to issue, suspends, revokes or otherwise places conditions on a license or permit, it is obligated to notify each licensed health care facility and health maintenance organization with which a licensee is affiliated and every other board licensee in this state with whom he or she is directly associated in private medical practice.

In accordance with an agreement with the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, a list of all disciplinary orders are provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear on the public agenda for the next monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear in a Monthly Disciplinary Action Listing which is made available to those members of the public requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.